

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1.(original) A support for pneumatically blocking an optical lens (200) on a machine or a device, the support possessing firstly blocking means for receiving and holding one face (202; 201) of the optical lens, and secondly coupling means (3; 22; 32) for fastening the block on a corresponding member of the machine or device, said blocking means including a central cavity (8; 24; 34) and possessing a gasket (9; 25; 35) possessing at least one annular portion (9; 25; 36) against which the lens is brought to bear in order to co-operate with said cavity and said gasket to define a suction chamber (11), the blocking means comprising abutment means (10; 26; 40) arranged to provide the optical lens with a rigid seat after the gasket has deformed elastically, the support being characterized in that, in order to bring the lens into abutment, the gasket deforms in compression.

2.(currently amended) A blocking support according to ~~the~~ preceding claim 1, in which the gasket (9; 25; 35) prevents the optical lens from turning solely by friction against the face concerned of said lens, to the exclusion of any mechanical indexing means.

3.(currently amended) A blocking support according to ~~either~~ preceding claim 1, in which said annular portion (9; 25; 36) of the gasket is flat in shape, presenting a width that is at least three times greater than its thickness.

4.(currently amended) A blocking support according to ~~any~~ preceding claim 1, in which the abutment means comprise an annular bearing member (10).

5. (currently amended) A blocking support according to ~~the preceding~~ claim 4, in which the gasket (9) is in the form of a ring and the annular abutment member is constituted by a circular ridge (10) surrounding the central cavity (8), with a setback (12) being formed outside the ridge with the inside edge of the gasket (9) being engaged around the setback, said setback presenting a depth (e_{12}) that is perceptibly smaller than the thickness (e_9) of said gasket.

6. (currently amended) A blocking support according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 3~~ claim 1, in which the abutment means comprise three spot abutment members (26; 40) that are not in alignment and form a tripod support.

7. (original) A blocking support according to claim 6, in which the gasket (25) presents an outside edge or an inside edge that becomes wedged inside or outside the studs.

8. (original) A blocking support according to claim 6, in which the three studs pass through corresponding openings in the gasket in order to wedge it.

9. (currently amended) A blocking support according to ~~any preceding~~ claim 1, in which, with the exception of the gasket (9; 25; 35) which is a separate and elastically-compressible part, the entire assembly and in particular the abutment means (10; 26; 40) is made as a single rigid part (1).

10. (new) A blocking support according to claim 2, in which said annular portion (9; 25; 36) of the gasket is flat in shape, presenting a width that is at least three times greater than its thickness.

11. (new) A blocking support according to claim 2, in which the abutment means comprise an annular bearing member (10).

12.(new) A blocking support according to claim 3, in which the abutment means comprise an annular bearing member (10).

13.(new) A blocking support according to claim 2, in which the abutment means comprise three spot abutment members (26; 40) that are not in alignment and form a tripod support.

14.(new) A blocking support according to claim 3, in which the abutment means comprise three spot abutment members (26; 40) that are not in alignment and form a tripod support.